

June 2006



Session 11:

CONTEXT SENSITIVE SOLUTIONS IN TRANSPORTATION DESIGN



Merrick Street Bridge, Adrian, MI

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Session 11: CSS in Transportation Design



CSS TRAINING MANUAL

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CSS and Project Development

Purpose and Need

- Apply CSS Principles
- Apply Shortened Planning Steps
- Identify Stakeholders
- Establish a Corridor Vision
- Define Goals and Objectives



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CSS and Project Development

Scoping and Preliminary Design

- Apply CSS Principles
- Identify Alternatives
- Evaluate Alternatives
- Select a Preferred Alternative



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CSS and Project Development

30% Final Design Plans

- Define mitigation and enhancement strategies
- Create project guidelines
- Forge support and partnerships
- Discuss cost-sharing agreements
 - Construction
 - Maintenance
- Apply CSS principles

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CSS and Project Development

60% Final Design Plans

- Apply mitigation and enhancement strategies
- Apply design guidelines
- Resolve construction schedule
- Create cost-sharing agreements
 - Construction
 - Maintenance
- Implement CSS principles



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CSS and Project Development

90% Final Design Plans

- Secure approvals and permits
- Secure signed cost-sharing agreements
 - Construction
 - Maintenance
 - Consequences of non-compliance
- Confirm construction schedule
- Confirm CSS implementation

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CSS and Design Practices

Stakeholder Involvement

Who are the stakeholders?

- MDOT
- Regulatory agencies
- Local governments
- Adjacent owners
- Travelers
- Interest groups
- Other individuals



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Stakeholder Engagement

Use a decision-making process, such as the **Systematic Development** of **Informed Consent**, that is:

- Inclusive (includes all stakeholders)
- Transparent (decisions are made publicly)

Create Informed Consent where all stakeholders:

- · concur with the need for the project
- concur that the proposed solution is reasonable and effective
- · concur that the proposed project should proceed

Note that *Informed Consent* is neither compromise nor consensus.

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CSS and Design Practices

Interdisciplinary Teams

Disciplines meet together, not separately

- Engineers: design, geometrics, soils, construction, maintenance, traffic operations
- Landscape architects
- Planners
- Resource specialists
- Other department specialists
- Stakeholder representatives



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Session 10: CSS in Transportation Planning



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CSS and Design Practices

Multi-Modal Systems

What modes are included in CSS?

- Car/truck
- Bus/transit
- Bicycle/pedestrian
- Light rail
- Commuter or passenger rail
- Airplane
- Ferry
- Local adaptations (snowmobiles)





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CSS is Appropriate for:

- Defining purpose and need
- Identifying a wide range of alternatives
- Selecting an alternative
- Attaining public support



Effective design using Context Sensitive Solutions will lead to community and political support for MDOT's design and project development processes.

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Conclusion

Three critical CSS methods during design are:

- Engaging stakeholders
- Utilizing interdisciplinary teams
- Considering multiple modes







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